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ments, and the volume closes with the discourse "In Felicem Memoriam Elizabethæ Angliæ Reginæ," followed by an English translation. The American publishers have produced a book — indicative of what the entire series will be — in all the accessories at their command faultlessly beautiful; and those who would gladly have a copy of Bacon need look no farther for an edition which will at once adorn the library, and furnish the reader with everything that remains of the author, or is essential to the illustration of his works.

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23. — *A Comprehensive Dictionary of the English Language.* By JOSEPH E. WORCESTER, LL. D. Revised, with important Additions. Boston: Swan, Brewer, and Tileston. 1860. 8vo. pp. 608.

IN 1830 Dr. Worcester first published his "Comprehensive Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary," which, for use in schools, at once took the field without dispute or rivalry, and in its successive editions and modifications has in great part held its ground against able and adroit competition. In 1855, he published a "Pronouncing, Explanatory, and Synonymous Dictionary," which was substantially an enlargement of the former work, with the introduction of the principal synonymes of the language. The present work is a carefully revised combination of these two Dictionaries. It is as large a book as can be desired for schools or for ordinary use, and comprises everything that can be reasonably expected within moderate limits of space. The vocabulary contains very numerous technical terms, and such obsolete words, provincialisms, Americanisms, and words adopted from foreign languages, as are likely to occur in books, conversation, or public discourse. Grammatical irregularities and anomalies are carefully noted. The definitions are necessarily concise; yet secondary and unusual senses of words are very often designated. The orthography is adjusted with especial care, not to an ideal standard, but to the best usage in England and America. The pronunciation is marked by a simple and convenient system of notation, and wherever there is a variance in good usage, the several pronunciations are given, with the authorities for each. Besides very valuable prefatory matter on the orthography and construction of the English language, there are in the Appendix Pronouncing Vocabularies of Greek and Latin Proper Names, of Scripture Proper Names, of Modern Geographical Names, and of the Names of Distinguished Men and Women of Modern Times; a list of the Christian Names of Men and Women, with their Signification; a table of Abbreviations; Signs of the Planets, Aspects, Zodiac, &c.; a collection of

Words, Phrases, and Quotations from the Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish; and a brief, but very serviceable, Dictionary of the Deities, Heroes, and Fabulous Personages in Classical Mythology. It will be perceived from this synopsis, that the volume well merits its title of "Comprehensive"; and there is no portion of it in which the execution does not betray the care, skill, and learning of the compiler, and bear manifest traces of his matured experience in all those minor details of arrangement and typography, which have no slight bearing on the value of a book designed for daily and constant use. While Dr. Worcester's quarto Dictionary will remain a permanent memorial of his erudition and industry, this more compendious work, in an humbler, yet even more important, line of service, must find its way at least into every portion of our own country, and will render essential aid in securing uniformity, and preserving purity in speech and writing throughout the so widely separated portions of our republic.

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24. — *The Lives of Dr. John Donne, Sir Henry Wotton, Richard Hooker, George Herbert, and Dr. Robert Sanderson.* By IZAAK WALTON · with some Account of the Author and his Writings, by THOMAS ZOUCH, D. D., F. L. S., Prebendary of Durham. New Edition, with Illustrative Notes, complete in One Volume. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, Lee, & Co. 1860. Small 8vo. pp. 386.

THE great popularity which Walton's "Complete Angler" early acquired, and still maintains, has quite overshadowed the reputation which he would otherwise have enjoyed as a biographer. Yet his "Lives" have the same simple beauty of style, and reveal the same gentle nature, which have given celebrity to that delightful work; and, as a whole, they form one of the most charming series of biographies in our language. Written with no ambitious purpose, they bring before us brief but admirable sketches of some of the truest and best men of their age; and notwithstanding the great changes, both in habits of thought and in modes of expression, since Walton wrote, we read these memoirs with an interest which may be traced partly to their subjects and partly to the felicity of treatment. Though Walton lived in a period of intense political excitement, followed by an age of gross immorality, and though he was for some time engaged in business as a small tradesman, his own life was such as to fit him especially to be the biographer of poets and divines. His tastes allied him with whatever was pure, simple, and truthful; and in the lives of the men whom he has commemorated he found a congenial theme, which he treated with con-